

Claims

1. Crystals of 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl ester.

2. Crystals according to Claim 1 that have peaks
5 at the following interplanar spacings in the X-ray powder diffraction pattern obtained by a copper radiation of $\lambda=1.5418$ Å through a monochromator:

d (Interplanar spacings)

7.27-8.16
10 5.36-5.93
4.44-4.92
3.64-4.37

3. Crystals according to Claim 1 that have peaks
at the following interplanar spacings in the X-ray powder
15 diffraction pattern obtained by a copper radiation of $\lambda=1.5418$ Å through a monochromator:

d (Interplanar spacings)

7.2787-8.1577
5.3646-5.9292
20 4.4430-4.9106
3.6423-4.3602

4. A process for producing crystals of 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl
25 ester comprising the steps of:

(A) .concentrating a solution containing 2 β -chloromethyl-2 α -methylpenam-3 α -carboxylic acid benzhydryl ester (CMPB);

(B) subjecting the thus-obtained concentrate to
5 column chromatography;

(C) concentrating a CMPB-containing fraction;
and

(D) dissolving the thus-obtained CMPB-containing concentrate in an ether solvent and adding a hydrocarbon
10 solvent to the resulting solution to precipitate CMPB crystals.